AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A process for preparing a 4-aminotetrahydropyran compound represented by the formula (1):

$$NH_2$$
 OR
 (1)

wherein R represents a hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group,

or an acid salt thereof,

which comprises subjecting a 4-hydrazinotetrahydropyran compound represented by the formula (2):

$$NHNH_2$$
 OR
 R
 (2)

wherein R has the same meaning as defined above,

or an acid salt thereof

to decomposition reaction in the presence of at least one compound selected from Raney nickel, a noble metal catalyst and a metal oxide.

2. (Original) The process for preparing a 4-aminotetrahydropyran compound or an acid salt thereof according to Claim 1, wherein the noble metal catalyst is a catalyst containing at least one of palladium and platinum.

- 3. (Original) The process for preparing a 4-aminotetrahydropyran compound or an acid salt thereof according to Claim 1, wherein the metal oxide is copper (I) oxide or copper (II) oxide.
- 4. (Original) The process for preparing a 4-aminotetrahydropyran compound or an acid salt thereof according to Claim 1, wherein the reaction is carried out in a solvent.
- 5. (Original) The process for preparing a 4-aminotetrahydropyran compound or an acid salt thereof according to Claim 4, wherein the solvent is water, an alcohol, or a mixed solvent thereof.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The process for preparing a 4-aminotetrahydropyran compound or an acid salt thereof according to Claim 1, wherein the compound represented by the formula (2) is a compound obtained by reacting a 4-substituted tetrahydropyran compound represented by the formula (3):

wherein R has the same meaning as defined above, and X represents a leaving group, with a hydrazine.

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- 7. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a 4-aminotetrahydropyran compound or an acid salt thereof, which comprises
- (A) a first step of reacting a 4-substituted tetrahydropyran 4-substituted tetrahydropyran compound represented by the formula (3):

wherein R represents a hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group, and X represents a leaving group,

with a hydrazine to prepare a 4-hydrazinotetrahydropyran compound represented by the formula (2):

wherein R has the same meaning as defined above,

or an acid salt thereof,

(B) then, a second step of decomposing the 4-hydrazinotetrahydropyran compound or an acid salt thereof in the reaction mixture in the presence of at least one compound selected from Raney nickel, a noble metal catalyst and a metal oxide to prepare a 4-aminotetrahydropyran compound represented by the formula (1):

wherein R has the same meaning as defined above.

- 8. (Original) The process for preparing a 4-aminotetrahydropyran compound or an acid salt thereof according to Claim 7, wherein the first step is carried out in a solvent.
- 9. (Original) The process for preparing a 4-aminotetrahydropyran compound or an acid salt thereof according to Claim 7, wherein the solvent used in the first step is an alcohol derivative.
- 10. (Original) The process for preparing a 4-aminotetrahydropyran compound or an acid salt thereof according to Claim 7, wherein the second step is carried out in a solvent.
- 11. (Original) The process for preparing a 4-aminotetrahydropyran compound or an acid salt thereof according to Claim 10, wherein the solvent used in the second step is water, an alcohol or a mixture thereof.
- 12. (Original) The process for preparing a 4-aminotetrahydropyran compound or an acid salt thereof according to Claim 7, wherein an amine is used at the time of removing the Raney nickel from the reaction mixture after completion of the reaction at the second step.

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13-16. (Cancelled)

JWB/enm

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